- Action has been initiated to lay 23 kms. long gas pipeline connecting Dhaula Kuan with GT Karnal Road.

In addition, 50 retail outlets have been identified for co-locating CNG dispensing facility.

Shortage of Kerosene in Rajasthan

2550. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of acute shortage of kerosene in the rural areas of Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the necessary steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Kerosene is an allocated product and Central Government allocates it to the States/Union Territories on annual basis and same is released on monthly basis. The Central Government also makes additional allocations of kerosene over and above normal allocations to States on requests received from State Governments to meet exigencies like floods, cyclones etc.

The distribution within the State is responsibility of the concerned State Government. Requests are received from various State Governments for enhancement of kerosene quota from time to time. Kerosene is a deficit product in the country and on account of constraints of product availability, foreign exchange outgo and heavy subsidy, the distribution has to be judicious.

Regulatory Authority for Oil and Gas Industry

2551. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a regulatory authority to monitor the oil and gas industry in India; and

(b) the other steps proposed to ensure that both private and public enterprises do not concentrate only on urban areas and rural areas are equally covered insetting up of outlets with proper supply and distribution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) In the deregulated